The TALON

Avila College Student Voice

By The Students, For The Students

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APRIL 29, 1994 — VOLUME II, ISSUE 10

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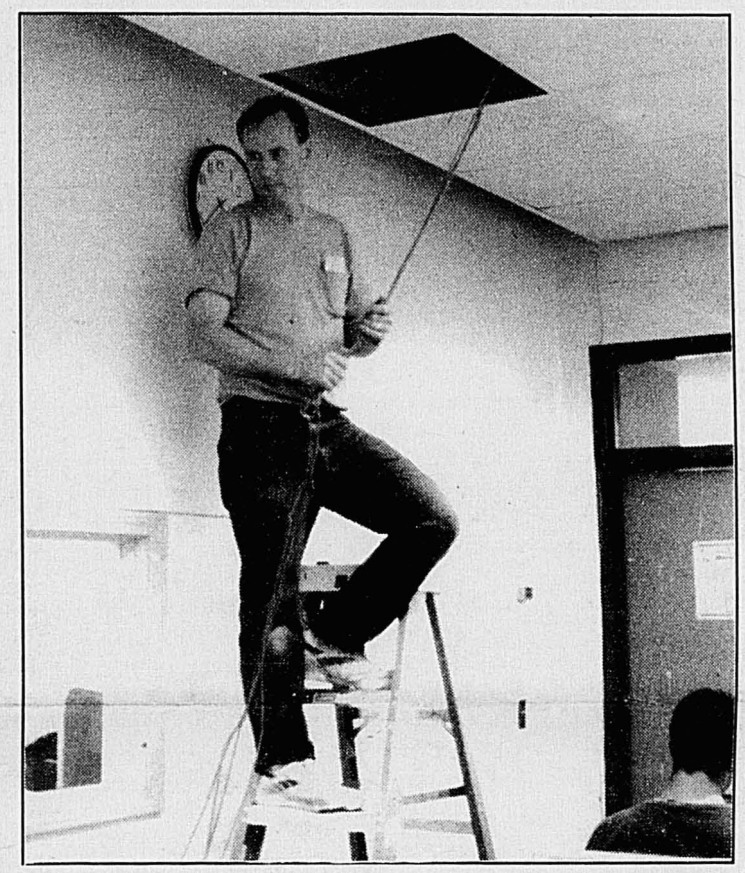
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Computer networking on its way



Evan Evans of Wachter Electric installs wiring in the Mac computer lab April 21 as student Eugene Troyer works on typing a paper. ***Photo by Fred Briseno***

Internet will link Avila to the rest of the world

by Dianna E. Hughes
Editor-in-chief

We've all heard the rumblings for quite some time. And just like a slow-moving train, Internet may not arrive "on time" in August but once it does arrive at Avila, it will forever change the way the college conducts itself.

Avila will enter the so-called information superhighway, taking every student with it.

Installing a computer network system in virtually every building on campus is an integral part of Avila's plan to become an electronic campus, according to Avila President Dr. Larry Kramer.

"It's all part of the electronic campus so that the students in the residence halls will have access to information through phone modems, through computers and through cable TV," Kramer said. "The rooms are presently wired for phone access. They will be wired for computer data access and they will be wired for cable television. And students who don't live in the residence halls will have access through the library."

While cable TV will definitely make its debut in August and bring with it the capability of intercampus broadcasting (see story at left), Kramer said students should not expect to have ready access to Internet when they return to campus August 29.

"The system will not be up and running in August," he said. "We hope to have the Internet system installed by next fall, but exactly what time next fall I can't say."

WHAT IS INTERNET?

Loosely defined, Internet refers to the global computer network that links educational institutions, governments and businesses, allowing users to exchange information. What type of information depends on what each user wants or needs to know.

On the Avila campus, among the things Internet will do, according to Kramer:

- Give students and advisors instant computer access to information like course offerings, availability, and much more.
- Allow library patrons to access research on virtually any subject from an endless number of sources around the world.
- Give faculty members a high-tech teaching tool to be utilized in lectures and assignments.

Kramer cautioned it will take a few years for Internet at Avila to reach its full potential, but once it does the possibilities for student and faculty use will be almost endless.

"We will be having drops for data and for video transmissions in every office, every classroom, the library, the theater, Whitfield Center—those will all be accessible (to Internet and cable television), plus all the residence hall rooms," Kramer said.

Internet will come to Avila via fiber optic lines being installed around the campus, which will feed into each building.

Kramer said the word "Internet" was first uttered by Avila's administration almost two years ago, when the college decided to investigate what it would take to fulfill Avila's technology needs into the 21st century.

After several meetings with consultants, the college decided to create a task force to investigate what it would take to make Internet a reality. One of their first recommendations was that the college hire someone to oversee the process from start to finish.

Enter one—Marc Solomon.

Solomon was hired by the college last July as director of computer services.

"As we made the decision that we were going to move in this direction (installing Internet), we felt that we needed to bring in a person who was qualified to help us make this move," Kramer said. "Marc Solomon was identified as the person best qualified and the best person for us."

Solomon brought with him 15 years of experience in helping colleges hook up to Internet. He oversaw the Internet installation at Missouri Western State College, one of the first colleges in this state to become an electronic campus,

Continued, page 6

Cable TV brings new possibilities to Avila

By G. Trudeau
Contributing writer

The installation of cable TV on the Avila campus next fall opens many doors of opportunity for Avila students.

Not only will students living in both residence halls be kicking back and putting their feet up (after homework assignments are completed, of course!) to television programming never before available at Avila, but the ability to broadcast from the TV production studio in Dallavis to other locations on campus will be made possible, according to Tom Lease, vice president and dean for Student Affairs.

Cable TV will be installed in several locations at Avila, including the student lounge in Marian Center, the convent, the audio visual room of the library and the television production studio in Dallavis Center. This will allow Avila to have its own broadcasting channel on campus. There will be a 2-way line to the studio which will enable a broadcasting signal to be sent out to the campus.

A designated channel will be allocated for this broadcast signal, said Lease, which will have the capacity to be visual and audio or just audio. Lease said Dotty Hamilton, coordinator of the Communication department, will be assigned responsibilities as "executive producer" of this new venture.

Hamilton is eager to get to work this summer on a broadcasting program for next fall.

"There are so many possibilities," she said. "I'm excited about the students being able to receive hands-on experience in the field they're studying, like the actual taping and editing of a broadcast."

Hamilton said there would be potential to develop video portfolios for students seeking work in the broadcasting field.

"This would enhance job opportunity for prospective broadcast desirees. It would serve as a video resume," she said.

A letter *from* the editor

Dear readers,

Enjoy your summer! This is the last issue of *The Talon* for the 1993-94 school year. This is also my last issue, since I am not returning to the staff in the Fall.

Thanks to all our readers who gave me words of encouragement over the past year. I wish next year's staff all the best.

Dianna E. Hughes
***Talon* editor-in-chief**

VIEWPOINTS

Letters to the editor

Greek life helps promote social and academic growth

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to the letter in your recent issue concerning instating a Greek system at Avila.

With all due respect to the student, staff member and faculty member who wrote that letter, it is letters like yours that fuel stereotypical views of the Greek systems. To say that the Greek system encourages irresponsible behavior is the exception, not the rule.

The media will always make stories such as the Southeast Missouri State incident headlines throughout the state; you will almost never hear the stories such as the fraternities that help with the Special Olympics, sandbagging for the 1993 summer floods of the Midwest or other types of community service.

Can community service be done an a individual basis? The answer is yes, but it becomes more of an attractive option when it can be done in groups or through organizations. It will also allow Avila students to get involved in larger projects than may be currently available.

I agree that at times fraternities and sororities tend to be somewhat exclusive, but at Avila College the pure number of students attending Avila would greatly limit the opportunity for exclusion. Financially, the groups will have to continually be active in recruiting new members.

As for the hazing problems, Missouri state law prohibits hazing and most fraternities have policies that STRONGLY FORBID any such activity. Is there still hazing going on? Of course. But now, as the organizations are getting started, is the time to instill the values of Avila College and give the support to the growing number of students who are looking at this as a viable option to help in their social as well as academic growth.

Sincerely,
Paul Gordon
Assistant Director of Financial Aid

Greek life will fragment Avila community, not bring it together

Dear Editor:

In recent months the subject of Greek life has become a heated topic at Avila. Those in favor of fraternities/sororities cite strong friendships, community service work, and leadership opportunities as reasons why these organizations should become part of campus life. Those opposed believe that fraternities/sororities would promote alcoholism, racism, sexism, and anti-intellectualism. The decision to incorporate the Greek system into the Avila community must be based on whether it would be a good choice for the entire campus, not just; an elite few.

Are Greek societies good for the entire campus? Avila is a small college made up primarily of non-traditional students. Out of approximately 1,350 students enrolled, only 138 live on campus. Avila also caters to a unique group of individuals who are returning to school after a hiatus.

In other words, this is not a typical gigantic state university where one would usually find fraternities/sororities. The group campaigning for Greek life is about 50 in number. If one of their main goals is to promote unity and greater bonds between people on campus, they are excluding a large segment of Avila's community — those who live off-campus, those who work, those who have children, and those who can't afford dues.

With a campus that is comprised mostly of commuters, there is a constant push to engage the students in activities that will help them achieve a sense of unity. Initiating Greek life into our small Avila community will fragment it rather than bind it together.

Are Greek societies good for the entire campus? Individuals who are pro-Greek stress the activities and community service projects they do. Events such as parties and picking up the trash are a few activities which the pro-Greeks have already done. Many claim that such activities would not occur without backing from fraternities/sororities. However, Avila provides and promotes activities extremely similar to these throughout the entire school year.

Nancy Wormington, the coordinator of volunteer services on campus, can provide any individual or group with multitudes of community-works projects. If community service is important, why not help out with the Campus Ministry Food Drive, the Christmas-in-October project, Toys for Tots, or any of the activities which are promoted all over campus?

The same goes for parties. One cannot walk through Marian Center without being bombarded with the array of signs for the upcoming SUB (Student Union Board) and RHA (Residence Hall Association) events. SUB and RHA provide parties such as Homecoming, Spring Formal, and Rockin' with Pat. They also sponsor several other events like ice skating, movies, musicals, comedy shows, and scavenger hunts.

If Avila can provide all of these activities for every student on campus, why is Greek life needed to provide the same type of activities to a smaller group of people?

Are Greek societies good for the entire campus? The overall reputation of Greek life needs to be considered. Fraternal organizations have been under fire lately due to several factors. In the past five years, universities have become fed up with hazing deaths, boozy parties, vandalism, rape, sexual harassment, and acts of racial and ethnic intolerance. Middlebury College and Washington and Lee Universities have banned Greek societies for their immature and dangerous behavior.

Avila is a small campus and lacks the security staff that would be needed to regulate a Greek life on campus. The antics that go along with fraternities and sororities have the potential to rip a small, education-based community apart.

Are Greek societies good for the entire campus? NO. Avila already provides the strong friendships, community work, and entertainment which fraternities and sororities claim to provide. We do not need to take the risk of dividing and bringing trauma to the community of Avila College by instituting Greek societies.

Sincerely,
Ellen Carmody

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The TALON's Editorial Policy:

The TALON is produced by the students in Avila College's journalism practicum classes and other student contributors. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of *The TALON* staff or the trustees, administration, faculty or staff of the college.

The TALON encourages letters to the editor. Letters should be typed and must include the writer's signature, name, address and telephone number for verification. Letters can be mailed to *The TALON* Editor, Avila College, 11901 Wornall Rd., Kansas City, Mo., 64145, or may be brought to *The TALON* mailbox in the Student Activities Room in Marian Center.

Please keep letters to 300 words or less. *The TALON* reserves the right to edit letters to the editor for reasons of space, clarity or inappropriate language. The writer's name will accompany all published letters.

Wolakota and goodbye...

Night People

By Herb Simon
Opinion Editor



When I started this column, I said that it would concern the denizens of Avila's night — students, faculty and staff who were working while others rested. Unfortunately, I find it hard to separate those concerns from larger issues.

Maybe it's just me, but I believe that we are all connected simply by virtue of being living creatures on this mudball called Earth. We're all affected by the events of our time.

People grow up and leave home to seek a life of their own. We leave elementary school for high school, then college. If we're good enough, we graduate and go out into the larger world.

After a number of years, we retire. Eventually, our perspective includes state, country and, ultimately, the world as a whole.

So it is with "Night People." Or, to be precise, with me. Oh, I'm not leaving Avila or *The Talon* just yet (sorry, but you'll have to put up with me a while longer).

I am, however, leaving "Night People." I'll be back next year with a whole new column, one geared more towards the larger issues. I don't have a title just yet (if you have an idea, let me know — I'd appreciate the help), but I will continue to be a shameless agitator.

I sincerely hope someone will take over the "Night People" column — night peoples' concerns are important and deserve a voice.

If you'd like to take on this challenge, let the staff know. Just think, you'll get to share your opinions with all of Avila every three weeks — and you just might make a difference. Besides, you'll get a neat picture of yourself in every issue.

I've enjoyed writing this column. Your words of encouragement when I talk with you around campus have helped me get through the times when I've struggled for something to write about or worried about how I'm going to get another column out while also getting my homework done, pleasing my boss and trying to find a few spare minutes to rest.

Thank you for your kindness.

With that, good-bye.

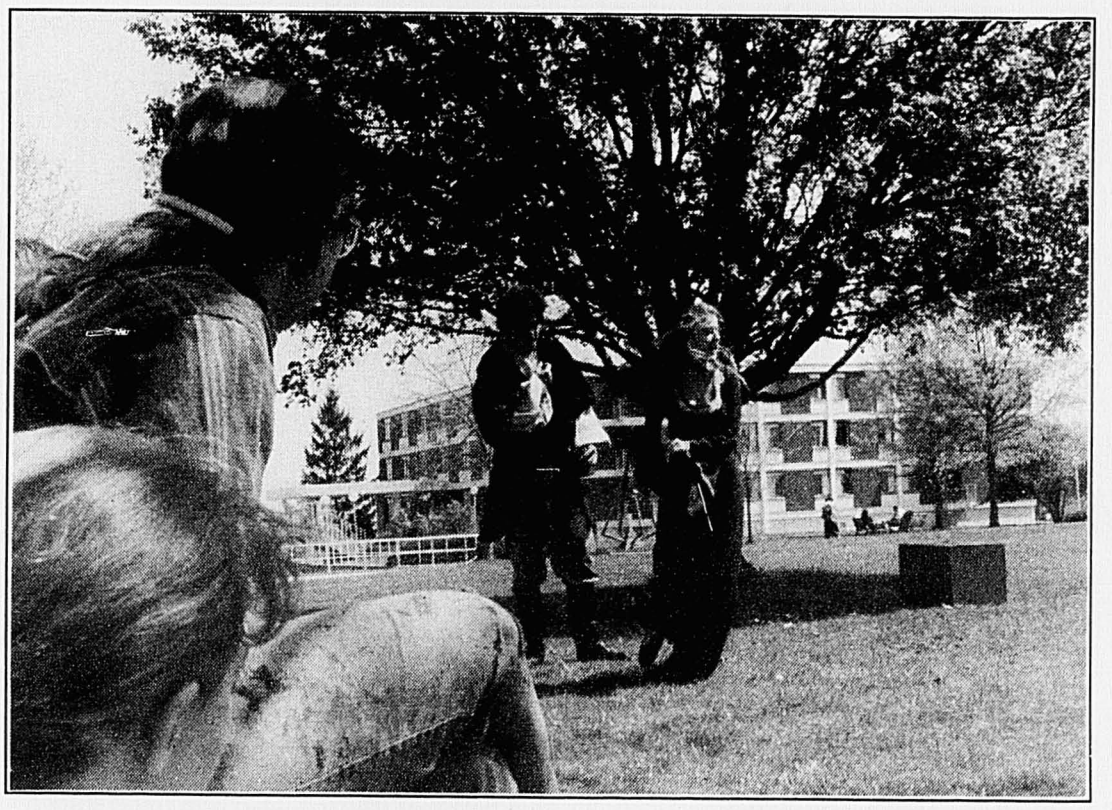
See you in the fall with a whole new forum of thoughts, opinions and general blather.

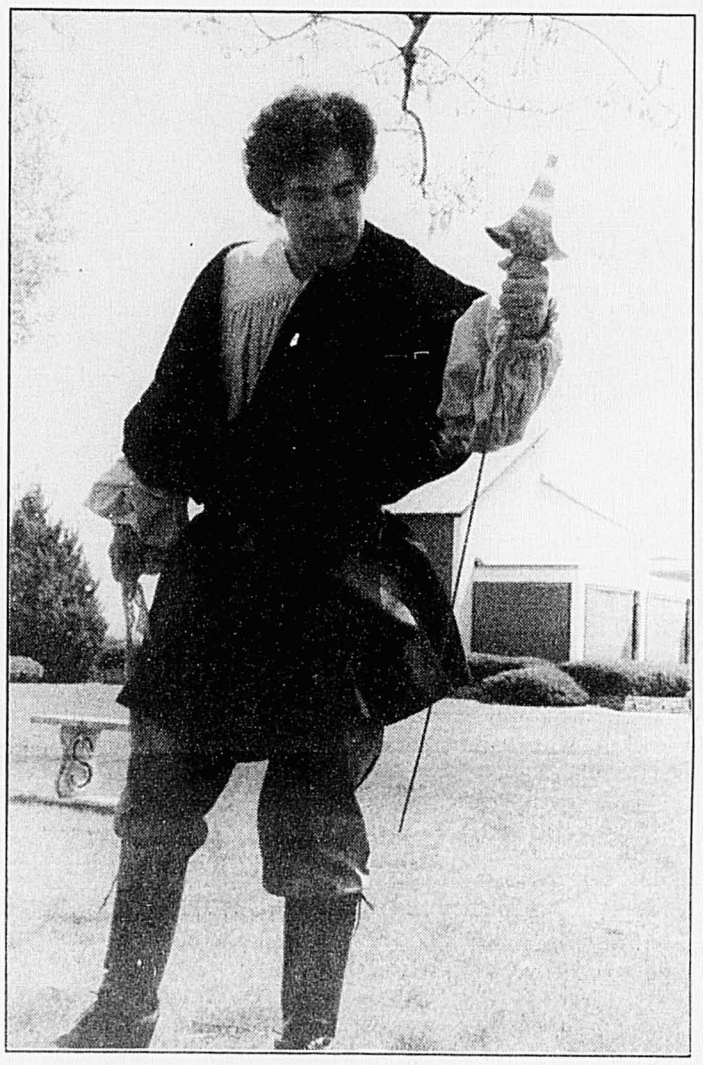
I hope your summer is happy. Wolakota.

Shakespeare in the Quad '94

The weather was perfect and the crowd enthusiastic for the Theater Department's annual Shakespeare in the Quad presentation April 20. Scenes from Richard the Third *were popular with the crowd, who watches (at right, top) as Lissa Sloan tries to escape from Sean Galvan. Below, Galvan makes his point with a sword. At right, bottom, Travis Russell also makes his point with a sword, against Meghan Harris' neck!*

Photos by Fred Briseno







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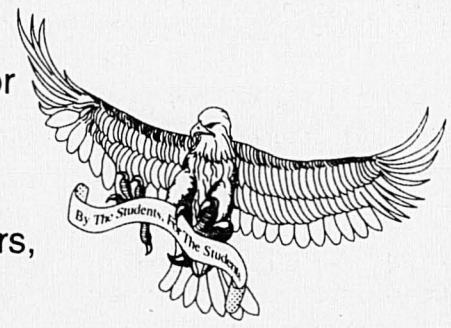
Enhance your life and your resume—Join the staff of *The Talon!*

Editorial positions open for Fall 1994:

- Editor-in-chief
- News editor
- Feature editor

We also need

- Photographers,
- Staff writers,
- Columnists
- Production assistants



Call Julie Boardman at 942-8400, ext. 2363 for an application and information.

Former NBA great to hold camp here

Larry Drew, former pro basketball player, will be holding his first annual All-Pro-Basketball camp at Avila this summer. Assisting Drew will be special guest Earvin "Magic" Johnson, current head coach of the Los Angeles Lakers. The five-day camp will begin June 20 and is open to area boys and girls ages 9-17.

Drew, a Kansas City native, will bring with him a staff basketball coaches and players including current Lakers Doug Christie and Nick Van Exel.

Fee for the camp is $195. Applications and payment must be received by camp headquarters by June 1. To receive an application, call 1-800-990-5105 or (816)942-8400 ext. 2355. Leave your name, address, and telephone number, and a brochure will be mailed to you.

AROUND

Time marches on to Pomp and Circumstance

Former Notre Dame president to speak

Avila College has invited Fr. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., former President of the University of Notre Dame, to be guest speaker at Commencement exercises on May 14.

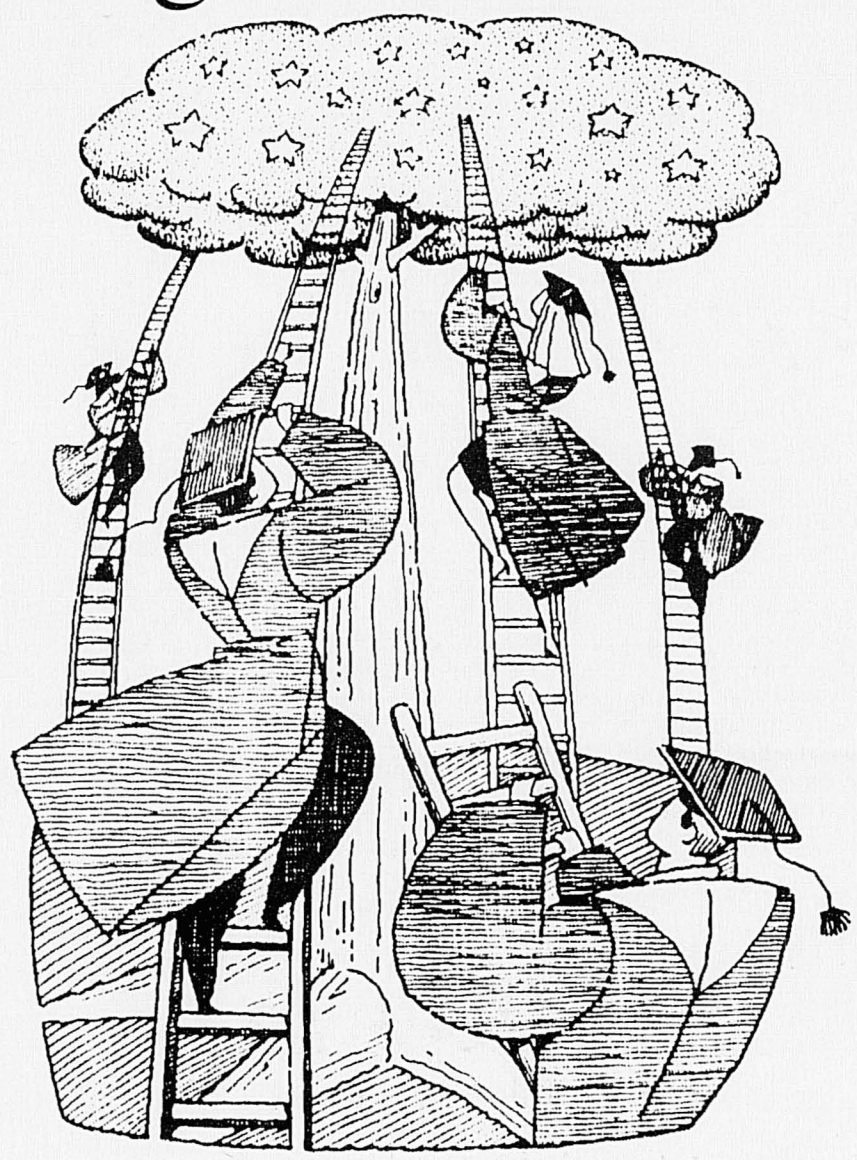
Fr. Hesburgh is a bestselling author and an international leader in education. He has held 15 presidential appointments and received the Medal of Freedom from President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964.

Fr. Hesburgh ended the longest tenure among active college presidents when he retired in 1987.

Avila will also bestow an honorary degree to Fr. Hesburgh during commencement.

Where do we go from here?

By ***Dee Aufdembrink***
Contributing writer



Few ideas are more entrenched in American ideology than the value of a college education. It was once considered the proverbial "key to success." In the past, a college education and hard work were all that was necessary to insure a comfortable life.

Today, though, things are not quite as simple for the graduate. In fact, statistics show it will be three times more difficult for this generation of graduates to be as successful as their parents. Graduates are facing many hurdles on their road to success.

But one thing remains constant. As graduates lace up their track shoes to begin the race for a comfortable life, they already have a head start off the block—a college degree.

Bachelor's degrees are quite common in today's market place, but without one a person will not even get into the front door of many corporations.

College graduates planning to enter the labor force in the 1990s and early 2000s are expected to face a more competitive job market than in the 1980s.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment projections for the 1990-2000 period indicate the average annual number of openings in jobs requiring a degree will number fewer than during the 1984-1990 period.

This in itself is not news. Prospects for seniors have been bleak four years running. What is news, is recession and restructuring have done more than cut jobs available to seniors, they have permanently changed the way graduates and employers are seeking one another out!

Technology has permanently reduced the number of entry level jobs. What used to take 50 people to accomplish can now be done by one person, one computer and one long distance modem.

Our nation's fourth largest long distance carrier, LDDS Communications, retains a large local sales presence in Kansas City. But, in an effort to consolidate customer service, seven regional centers were restructured to one central regional office operating out of Little Rock, Arkansas.

It's the same story for many other companies in Kansas City. But cutbacks do not constitute a dead end for recent graduates Cutbacks simply indicate students are going to have to plan ahead.

Companies can't afford to hire unqualified people, so openings for graduates aren't being filled by just anyone off the street. They're being filled by people hand picked well before graduation.

"About a third of our offers to new grads go to people who've worked for us as interns. We plan to raise that to between 40 percent and 50 percent."

Bill Dittmore, director of Recruitment and College Relations for General Mills, said, "About a third of our offers to new grads go to people who've worked for us as interns. We plan to raise that to between 40 percent and 50 percent."

By making offers to people already familiar with the company, Dittmore gets a higher acceptance rate and lower turnover.

The same can be said for many other industries. Seniors who did internships have an inside track, not only to companies they worked for but to the people they came in contact with while working. This type of networking happens all the time as does the "promoting from within" syndrome.

Yellow Freight System, Inc., one of Kansas City's Fortune 500 companies, usually fills its management training positions from within company walls.

This does not mean a mail clerk will be the next vice president. But chances are a familiar face with a college education and reputable job history has a better opportunity for upward mobility than a green new hire fresh out of college.

Jobs do exist for new college graduates. But graduates need to work smarter and be prepared to venture off the beaten path to get ahead in today's job market.

4.0 graduate says, *"It really isn't all that hard"*

By Kathi VanVeen
Feature editor

"Get it while you're in the classroom."

This is Angela Azma's philosophy about learning. Graduating with a 4.0, Azma obviously practices what she preaches.

The 22-year-old Azma has come a long way to graduate. A native Iranian, Azma came to the U.S. right after high school. She is a full-time student with a dual major, biology and pre-med, and is minoring in chemistry. She is also a student teacher in the biology lab as well as a volunteer at Menorah Hospital.

With all these pieces on her plate, how did Azma make staight A's for four years?

"Dedication, good note taking skills, active listening and asking questions," explains Azma. "Time spent learning in the classroom means less time studying later."

Azma doesn't spend all her spare time studying. She feels that two hours per session is plenty.

"Students make the mistake of studying too long. They need to take breaks, exercise, spend time with friends," she said.

"College is not just a place to study, it is also a place to interact with others." This, she feels, also helps prepare one for the future. this summer, Azma plans to study for the Medical College admission test. Then she plans to take a year off before beginning medical school.

"It really isn't that hard [to make good grades]," said Azma.

Setting goals, hard work and not missing classes is Azma's advise to others.

"I came here for higher education," Azma said. And she got it, along with the highest honor awarded graduates, Summa Cum Laude.

Key to success: Stay *"busy and organized"*

By Lee Ann Rickard
Staff writer

Imagine graduating from four years of college with a GPA of 3.7 or higher. For 11 Avila students graduating this May, the imagined is reality.

Marjorie Velghe is one of those students to join the ranks of Magna Cum Laude. The achievement is the result of a personal goal for her.

"I promised my two adult sons that I would graduate with honors when I decided to go back to school," said Velghe.

Velghe is a non-traditional student returning to school for her own personal enrichment. She is an English major and is currently not seeking a career.

"After graduation, I want to get involved in more volunteer work," said Velghe. She also has plans to learn to play the piano she bought as a graduation present.

But Velghe has more going on than graduation to worry about. "I am getting married on the day of graduation," Velghe said.

Velghe describes herself as "busy and organized."

That is the key to her success. She admits good grades do not come easy. She had to study and study hard.

She said her toughest class has been French I and II. The sciences were difficult too because that is not where her interests are.

Velghe claims that being an older, non-traditional student has been an asset for her.

"You bring in more wisdom with you," Velghe said. "You are there for a purpose. You are there because you want to be."

Avila has always given Velghe a comfortable feeling. "I have never felt out of place," she said. The school has given her an atmosphere in which she could meet her goal.

The advice Velghe gives to all those freshmen and sophomores with years of college ahead and with goals like hers is to study and study hard.

16 Days to Glory!

The countdown begins

Wednesday, May 11

- **GRADUATION PRACTICE**
 3 p.m. Required for all who wish to participate in the commencement exercise.

Friday, May 13

- **BARBEQUE**
 6 p.m. in Marian Center dining room. Open to all graduates, families and friends. Dress is casual.

Saturday, May 14

- **GRADUATION COFFEE**
 9:30 a.m. in Goppert theater lobby. Hosted by the Alumni Association. Graduates and families are invited.
- **HONORS CONVOCATION**
 10:30 a.m. in Goppert theater. For students, faculty, staff receiving awards and/or honors. This will also be the Pinning Ceremony for nursing, medical technology, and radiologic technology graduates.
- **BACCALAUREATE MASS**
 3 p.m. in Goppert theater. This Mass fulfills the Sunday obligation for Catholics. The Mass is open to both Catholics and non-Catholics.
- **BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATION CEREMONIES**
 5 p.m. in Mabee Fieldhouse. Allow 1 1/2 to 2 hours for the ceremony and for checking in caps and gowns afterward.

The Class of '94

Summa Cum what?

To graduate with honors—*"Cum Laude"* —a senior needs to have a cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.5 or better. To receive the highest honor of *"Summa Cum Laude,"* a senior needs a GPA of 3.9 or above. *"Magna Cum Laude"* honors are given to those with GPAs between 3.7 and 3.9.

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Angela Azma
Karen Baum
Lisa Burk
Mary Elliott
Janet Mees
Pamella Myerson
Suzanne Sloan
Willard Stringham

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Amber Allen
Doris Binda
Cynthia Brewster
Heather Burroughs
Peggy Fluke
Joyce Heimsoth
Christy Hennon
Marguerite Klasinski
Joshua Kovich
Stacy Martin
Danon Park
Susan Pearson
Judy Praechter
Nancy Rische
Margie Velghe

CUM LAUDE

Louise Ammatelli
Laura Bagunu
Suzanne Baker
Karen Burns
Joan Cook
Joan Demeter
Patricia Dwyer
Dawn Eagleton
Jane Erington
Vivian Grover
Theodora Jackson
Cynthia Loeffler
Mellisa Mattingly-Goffoy
Amy McCoy
Amy Meiners
Elizabeth Murray
Donna Norris
Patricia Presley
Sonia Rustici
Jaye Stretesky
Mary Theobald
Kathi VanVeen

NEWS

Activity fee funds many campus groups

By Nell Kuestermeyer
Production Assistant

Have you ever wondered exactly what the activity fee you pay at the beginning of each semester goes for? And even more, who decides what to do with it?

The $40 student activity fee that students pay each semester funds many organizations. "Things that enhance the co-curricular life," said Ron Frigault, assistant dean for Student Affairs. This includes Student Senate, Campus Ministry, student I.D.'s, *The Talon* and cultural events, for example.

All Student Union Board events, orientations, and the Spirit Squad are also funded. Theater productions and the Thornhill Art Gallery are partially funded through activity fees.

The student activity fee will **not** pay for the new cable television hookups being installed in many locations on campus, according to Frigault. That cost is covered by the residence hall fees.

A student activity fee board meets annually to read and discuss requests for funding. The board is composed of faculty and staff, and students who are nominated by the Student Senate and Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs, Tom Lease. The board, which, according to the Avila Student Handbook, remains objective and free of political influence, reads through the material and weighs the merits of each application.

Finally, the board suggests the amount of money the groups will receive. Lease must, however, give the final approval.

The amount of money the board has to distribute depends on the enrollment of full and part-time students. Last year, the fee brought in $51,000, Frigault said. This year, the board had $54,000 to work with.

Despite the large sums of money, the requests from groups are usually $20,000 more than the budget will allow, according to Frigault.

Senior art show May 6-14

The Senior Show at the Thornhill Gallery features works by graduates Mindy Miller, Nikki Moralez and Jeff Munden. The show opens May 6, with a reception from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., and continues through May 14. The gallery is located in Whitfield Center.



Erin Williams (center), chats with another student while she waits for Della McLane (left) to process student enrollments April 11 in the Registrar's office in upper level Blasco Hall. Student Senate is proposing changes to the enrollment process (see story at right). ***Photo by Fred Briseno***

Change in registration proposed

By Justine Dodge
Copy Editor

Student Senate Report

Student Senate has submitted to the Registrar's Office a proposal for a new registration process. The proposal calls for registration to become a tiered process.

The plan would allow seniors to enroll first. Seniors and juniors would then have the opportunity to enroll on the second day of registration. Seniors, juniors, and sophomores would be allowed to enroll on the third day of enrollment.

The fourth day would be open to all current students. After that, enrollment would be open to new and returning students.

Senate is proposing this plan because they feel that seniors and juniors need to have ample opportunity to get into to the classes that they need to graduate.

Student Senate asks student who agree with this policy to make their feelings known to Avila's administration.

Community work-study program planned for 1994-95 school year

By Jason Coots
Staff writer

Jerome Curtis, financial aid specialist and work-study coordinator, is coordinating two new programs for the fall semester.

Curtis is focusing on the newly implemented community work-study program and the organization of outside scholarship opportunities that are available to students.

The community work-study program is a new federal program that requires the learning institution to place 5 percent of their work-study budget into community volunteer positions, but is compensated by the institution's work-study budget.

"This new requirement will give approximately five students the chance to participate with organizations such as the Red Cross or the Montessori of St. Thomas More Parish," Curtis said.

"We are trying to place the students with a job that will fit their majors. For example, a social work major may be placed in a center for child abuse."

The program will try to place students with intended majors in areas of work associated with their future employment.

"We are trying to place the students with a job that will fit their majors," said Cindy Butler, director of financial aid. "For example, a social work major may be placed in a center for child abuse."

The second project that Curtis is working on is the organization of outside scholarships that are available to Avila students. These scholarships have always been available, but not organized into one folder that is easily accessible to students.

"We have been so busy this last couple of years that when a scholarship opportunity comes into the office we cannot effectively advertise it to the campus," Butler said. "Since Jerome came to us, he has organized the scholarships and is updating them as they come in."

If you are interested in acquiring an extra scholarship or participating in the community work-study program for next year, contact Jerome Curtis in the financial aid department at 942-8400, ext. 2347.

Want to know more about Internet before it arrives? Read the definitive book on the subject, **The Whole Internet, User's Guide & Catalog**, *by Ed Krol. The book is available at Avila's Hooley—Bundschu Library.*

Internet installed at cost of $800,000

continued from page 1

Kramer said.

"Marc provided us expertise. After we hired him, he put together a study with realistic costs of what it would take for us to achieve this," Kramer said.

Estimated price: $800,000.

Kramer said in a February interview with *The Talon* that the Board of Trustees and the committees were "just in shock" about that cost, which was double the original estimation when Internetting was first mentioned.

However, the prevailing sentiment was, "If we're going to do this, we want to do it right," Kramer said. "Our hope is that we can do the Internetting with some operating revenue but support it mostly by gifts."

He said about half of the $800,000 price tag is for the actual installation of equipment to provide access to the network, and the other half is to purchase the computer hardware and software that will be necessary to support it.

"We went to the Board of Trustees at their February meeting with a proposal to get approval to move ahead, and began to raise gifts and other ways of financing it," Kramer said.

Formal approval came from the Board on Feb. 11.

"The activity has gone at a very fast pace since then," Kramer said.

FEATURES

Entering a different world...

International students learn from more than just their textbooks

By Ya-Hui Emily Wang
Contributing writer

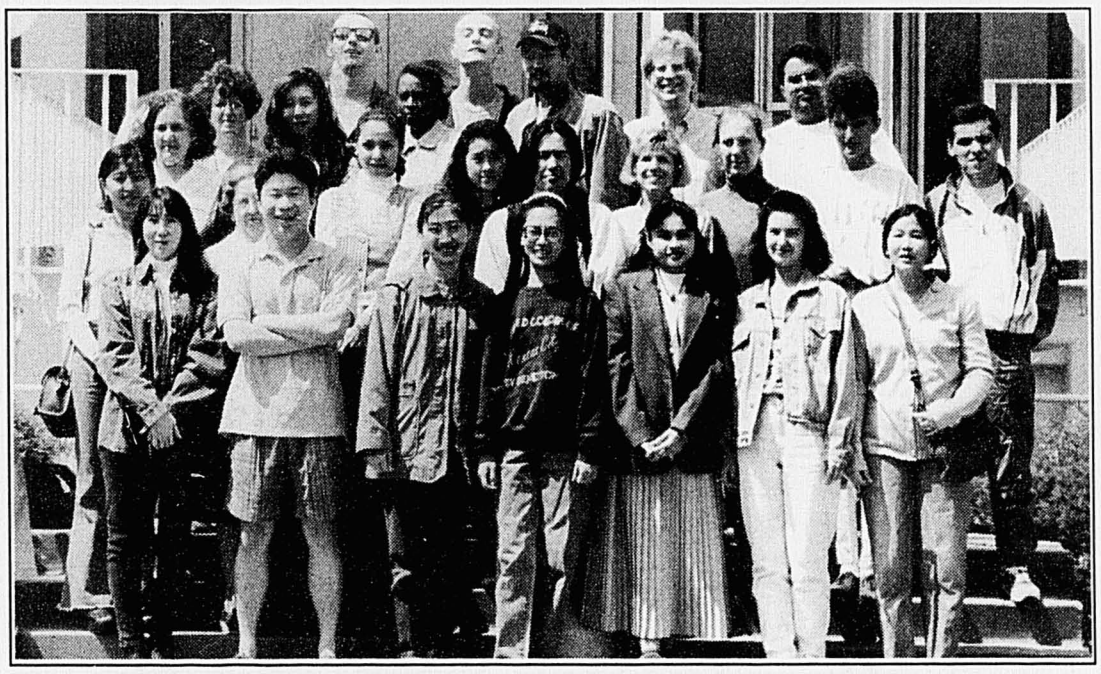
Four years of college is not easy for most American students. Academic achievement takes a lot of effort.

So imagine how hard it is for foreign students to leave their native countries to seek their higher education in the United States. They not only need to learn the new language in order to communicate with others, but also need to deal with new environments and cultural differences.

At Avila, there are a total of 54 international students that come from all over the world. The biggest population of international students come from Taiwan. The rest come from Japan, Korea, Thailand, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Ukraine, Latvia, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Russia and Senegal.

Cultural diversity enriches both the lives of the international students as well as the American students.

"I have not only developed a better understanding of the Taiwanese culture, but also a greater appreciation for it," said Nell Kuestermeyer.



Avila's Intensive Language and Culture Program participants come from 12 different countries. Left to right, first row: Diane Taehahok Runndenapawate, Darren Kao, I-Yun (Christy) Wang, Cheng-Hui (Jennifer) Chu, Shu-Mei Huang, Svetlana Tepina, Chris Chen. Second row: Shin Lu Kuo, Sr. Marie Tucker (English as a Second Language instructor), Patricia Maras, Mariko Ishiyama, Masao Nakashima, Linda Dortch, Elena Elesina, Mariha Bratishkina, Alex Natapov. Third row: Gina Frigault and Betty Vandegrift (Student Resource Center), Kazuyo Yoshida, Bintou Kane, Kazu, Bruce Inwards (ILCP Coordinator), Ibrahim Al-Oqaily. Fourth row: Sergei Bail, Max.

Photo by Ya-Hui Emily Wang

Most international students need to spend a year or a year-and-a-half in the Intensive Learning and Cultural Program (ILCP)—which combines English As a Second Language (ESL) courses and cultural courses—before they attend regular college classes. ILCP helps international students adjust to the cultural differences and learn to communicate with a new language.

The international students need to take classes which teach about the American culture. Instructors take the students on field trips so that they can experience the culture first hand.

Students must also take classes to learn to speak, listen, and understand the English language in order to develop better communication skills.

There are students who take ESL courses and attend college at the same time to get acquainted with the environment and new culture.

When they get to the end of the program, in addition to their performance at school, the international students also need to ask their instructors to write recommendations for them.

The ILCP has only been active for a few years.

"The program is not old enough for students to graduate yet," said Bruce Inwards, ILCP coordinator. The first three international students who participated in the program will graduate this year.

"Four years went by very fast," said December graduate Theresa Lo from Taiwan. "There were many things to learn, but the American culture has made me richer inside."

"The international students are just like the rest of American students. Some of them are very good, but some are not," said Inwards. "They have all the questions the American students might have."

Other instructors share a similar view. "I love them; they are wonderful. They are very polite, hard workers and have a quiet demeanor," said George Chrisman, instructor of art and curator of Thornhill Gallery.

Most international students feel that they lack communication skills. American students sometimes have difficulty understanding international students' accents. As a result, according to Chrisman, they fear expressing themselves.

College is more than text book learning. The ILCP gives students worldwide knowledge and understanding of different cultures.

Dazed and Confused captures 1970s nostalgia

★★★1/2 stars

By Jason M. Buice
Entertainment critic

Think of it: On May 28, 1976, KISS was popular, reefer madness was everywhere, and gangs fought with their fists instead of with guns. Oh yeah, America was having a birthday and Gerald Ford was still in office. Pretty crazy.

You've probably heard about *Dazed and Confused*. It's been in theaters for awhile. It just came out on video, and I happened upon it the other night. I watched it once, pondered the nostalgia for about an hour, then watched it again. It was so realistic and crazy that I couldn't get enough of it.

The spine of this movie basically consists of a bunch of high school and junior high kids growing up. If you watch closely, you'll notice the dichotomy between the "big" kids and the "little" ones. Each "big" kid has a "little" kid that is a lot like him or her, but not quite. The younger generations are always a little more mature, aren't they? Director Richard Linklatter does an excellent job of capturing all the cool and uncool aspects of the Seventies. All the seniors of Lee High School are out to "paddle" or initiate the younger kids. All the seniors are looking for a huge blow-out party. And everyone is just...waiting for life.

If you like observing the "wonder years" of life then rent this film. The acting is awesome. They reminded me of all the "big" kids I knew so little about in the seventies (I found myself thinking, "So this is what they were like!") Also, the music, pre-alternative in form and fashion, reminds us of what life was like before The Cranberries.

I think Linklatter has given us a documentary of sorts. It's similar to Stephen Spielberg giving us *Schindler's List* (don't get me wrong, *Dazed and Confused* is nothing like *Schindler's List*) so that we will always remember.

I look forward to watching this film many more times. It gave me a really good feeling inside and now...I just want to dance!

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Facing reality through faith

By Annamarie Lindemuth
Contributing writer

Turning setbacks into comebacks is a struggle everyone faces in life and it was also the theme of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting held April 5.

FCA is a national organization with over 5,000 chapters nationwide and about 80 in the Kansas City metro area. Even though the FCA organization is 40 years old, the Avila chapter has not been active that long.

After several years of dormancy, FCA was recently reestablished at Avila because of several student requests.

FCA members gather together to share situations everyone may face in life and they discuss how to cope with the situations through God.

According to Fr. Dan Torson, director of Campus Ministry, "One of the goals for this semester was to discuss topics which integrate faith with the realities of life."

FCA meetings are open to anyone, not just athletes. Interest in or knowledge of athletics is helpful, but club members said that it is not a requirement to participate; it simply enables the members to better relate to one another.

Member Brad Koper said, "FCA provides an opportunity to share in your faith with people that are going through the same things you're going through. It's a good way to express your feelings and get feelings back."

The discussion topics are created by the students who choose to lead the meetings each week.

Fred Turner, head basketball coach, along with Carl Clapp, director of athletics, and Fr. Torson helped the students organize the chapter. They also provide support to the group when needed.

FCA meetings are held every Tuesday night at 9 p.m. in the Ridgway lounge on the first floor.

Interested students can contact Fr. Torson at 942-8400, ext. 2423 for more information.

Wanted:

People to welcome new students, conduct tours of Avila, and help out at special events

Applications for
Avila Ambassadors
are being accepted until April 29, 1994

Questions? Call Susan Gurley in the Admissions Office 942-8400, ext.2377

SPORTS

WANTED:
Grounds person for Avila College

Spending time on the field sometimes means more than just playing the game

By Jason Coots
Staff writer



Softball team members Michelle Chiles (left) and Holly Shelby rake the field before a Lady Eagle's game. ***Photo by Fred Briseno***

Along with being skilled in hitting fastballs and catching pop flies, the Avila baseball and softball teams are required to be masters of preparing and raking their respective fields.

According to Ben Gilner, outfielder for the Eagles baseball team, each player is required to rake the field the day after a rainstorm.

"If it rains hard at night, coach will usually get word to all of us about raking the field at 9 a.m.," Gilner said. "The only excuse for not raking is if you have class at the same time."

The same is required for the softball team.

"Our field dries pretty well, but if it is still wet close to game time, coach does require us to rake the field until it is playable," said Holly Shelby, senior infielder for the Lady Eagles softball team.

Raking the field requires a lot of time and effort in additon to the busy schedule of the normal student-athlete.

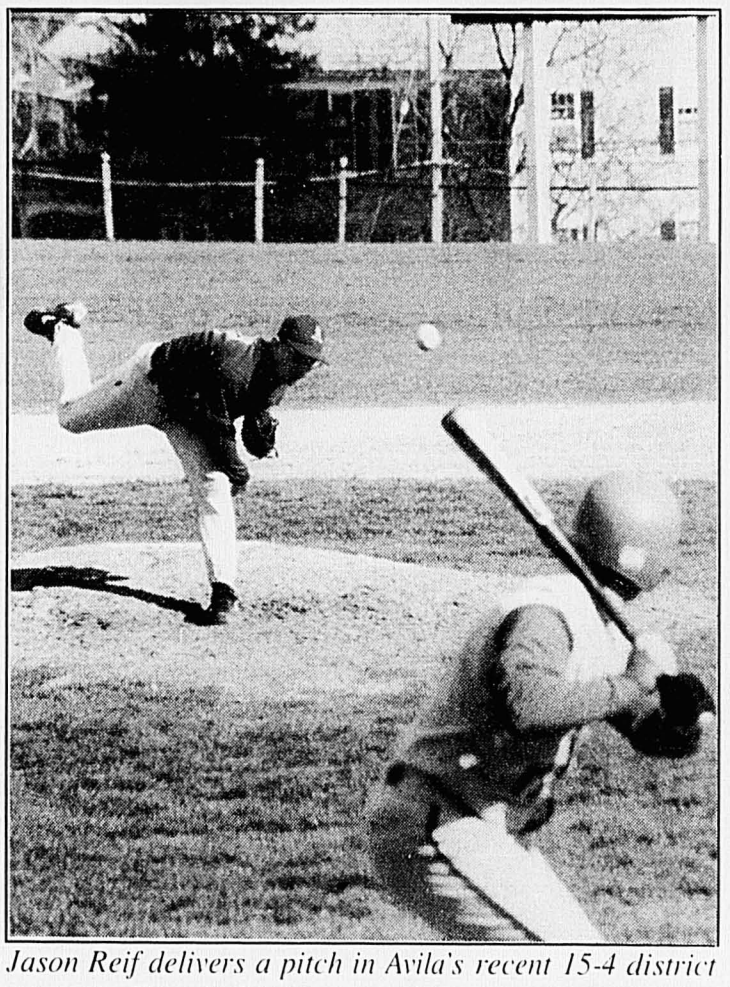
"We spend probably 5 to 10 hours on the field a week," Gilner said. "It may not sound like much, but that is a lot of raking for anybody."

Many players feel that a full-time groundskeeper would help by supervising upkeep of the fields.

"When I get my homework done the night before the game I know that I have to get up at 8 a.m. to work on the field," Marc Venneman, second baseman, said. "It is exhausting to rake the field that early and then play two hours later."

The typical student-athlete spends at least 20 hours a week playing their sport, 10 hours a week on home work, and 12 to 15 hours in class. This is equivalent to a 40-hour work week. With the addition of 10 to 15 hours of working on the field, the student-athlete is working a lot of overtime.

Still, they continue to do it. "We have to work on the field to play physically," Venneman said. "I love the game and if this is what it takes to play then I will do it."



Jason Reif delivers a pitch in Avila's recent 15-4 district win over Hannibal LaGrange. ***Photo by Fred Briseno***

Eagles falter on road
But hope to remain in top 4

By Marc Venneman
Staff writer

The Eagles baseball team returned from a successful spring trip to Arkansas with a 4-1 record.

After the trip, the Eagles season mark was at 16-5.

In recent weeks, the team has hit a rough stretch playing about .500 baseball in district games. The Eagles season record stood at 31-14 on April 21. Recent games include a three-game sweep of Hannibal LaGrange. The Eagles also swept Iowa's Graceland College, pounding out 27 hits in a Sunday doubleheader.

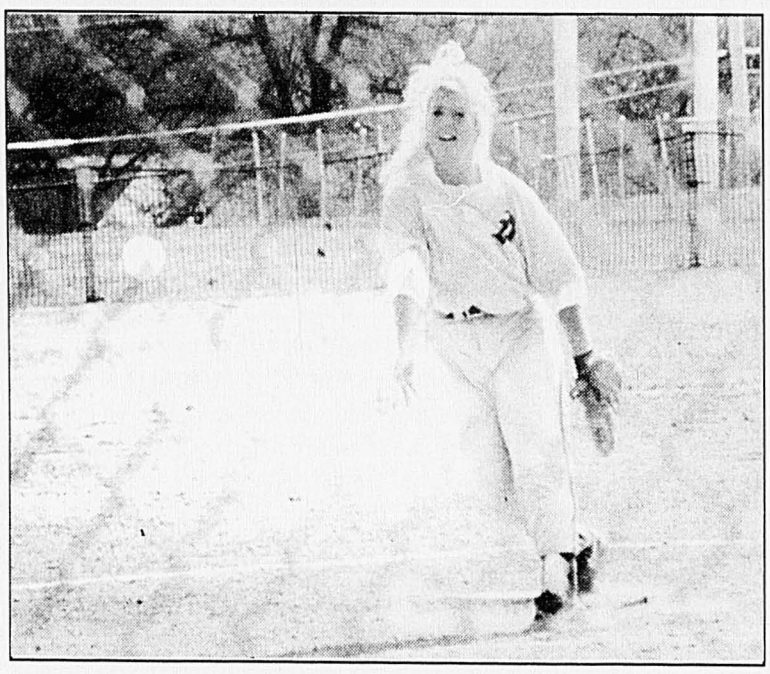
But the Eagles dropped their next game to city rival Rockhurst, and then went on to split a doubleheader with Ottawa.

"We need to maintain our spot as one of the top four teams in the district," said head coach Jim Huber.

"We have had some trouble in district games on the road, so we need one of the top four spots in districts to gain the home field advantage," he said.

"Team chemistry will be the key to winning in the playoffs," said senior outfielder Lance Richards.

Richards also said although the chemistry hasn't been there all year, the team is starting to gel in time for the playoffs.



Lady Eagle Jennifer Kraemer unleashes a fastball in the Lady Eagles recent 8-4 loss to Southwest Baptist University. Kraemer, a sophomore from Harrisonville, came on strong as a pitcher for the team late in the year.
Photo By Fred Briseno

Softball season comes to an end

By Jered Steen
Sports Editor

With six games left in their season and a record of 11-26 the Lady Eagles softball team is left wondering what went wrong this season. With high expectations early in the year, the team got off to a slow start and sub .500 mark heading into their spring trip.

The Lady Eagles trip started off well with a dramatic 4-3 win over St. Mary's of Minnesota when Jacki Staggs came through with a big 2-out 2-run single in the bottom of the seventh inning to give the team the win. The Eagles trip continued to look good the following day even though they lost to Athens State of Alabama. Athens State, who was ranked 6th in the nation in the latest poll, pulled out a 7-6 victory over the Eagles late in the game. Even though the Lady Eagles lost they proved to themselves that they could play with some very good competition.

After starting off the trip well the team went downhill, losing three of their next five games.

"I think we have a tendency to play just to the level of our competition." Coach Dave Melton said.

With the Lady Eagles season most likely ending this week they are left thinking about next year and what can be changed. "With the talent that we have, we have proven that if we just play smart ball and play with intensity that we can play with anyboby," Melton said.

Soccer teams get new practice field

By Jered Steen
Sports Editor

For anyone who plays sports, attends classes at Avila or drives by the west side of the campus you are probably wondering what the school is building behind Mabee Fieldhouse.

With the addition of Women's soccer in the fall of 1994 the school and athletic department ran into the problem of conflicting practice times between the men's and women's soccer teams. As it stands now the Eagles baseball and softball fields located at the Zarda Family Athletic Complex are converted into the soccer field. With the addition of the new practice field it will enable both teams to practice at the same time on the two fields.

"There are no long term plans to turn it into a playing field. The plan is now to use it as a practice field for the soccer teams as well as any other sport that would want to use it," Athletic Director Carl Clapp said. "The other thing the new field does for us is just to give us more field space on campus to use for things such as intramurals and other recreational activities."

Although both teams will practice on the new field, all games will be played on the original field located at the Zarda Family Athletic Complex.